

A Shared Vision for Lake City



February 10, 2016

Dear Community Members:

Over the past few months, I've been impressed with the dedication of the Lake City community. This is a neighborhood that is rolling up its sleeves to make a difference. Lake City is a community that welcomes partnerships from all corners, recognizes the importance of new investments, and wants to make sure everyone experiences the value of those investments.

Last year, I announced a new way for City Hall to work with communities like Lake City. I created the Office of Planning and Community Development—OPCD—to better engage communities and collaborate across departments to meet the needs of neighborhoods. Here in Lake City, OPCD has worked with residents and with many different departments to help achieve a common vision for the neighborhood. One that:

- Supports a vibrant neighborhood center with healthy businesses;
- Responds to the need for community services that promote public health;
- Advances public safety through safe streets and community policing;
- Connects parks, transit and schools through a network of sidewalks;
- Creates affordable homes, child care and services for families;
- Creates great community places for recreation and community events.

In the pages that follow, I outline my commitment to you to implement our common vision. The actions I outline represent real investments and continued collaboration with you, with the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Economic Development, Parks, Department of Transportation, Public Utilities, Police, Human Services and many more.

Lake City is growing and changing, and Lake City continues to face many challenges. I am grateful to work with a community that welcomes growth and envisions an equitable future for everyone who lives, works and visits the neighborhood.

As we grow as a City, it is critical that we create a compelling vision for the future. It is equally important that we work together to implement that vision. Planning for the future and working together to make things happen today: that is the spirit of OPCD, and it is my commitment to you moving forward.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ed Murray

Strengthen Community Partnerships

PROJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION
New integrated approach to community development	OPCD will act as a point of contact for the community where people can get information and provide feedback about work underway in Lake City. They will collaborate across departments and ensure that new investments are well coordinated and responsive to the needs of Lake City community members.
Coordinated community outreach	Continue to engage with community members through events that involve participation from multiple departments, community organizations, and service providers. Translate materials so they are accessible to more people. Events will be held at various Lake City venues, including the community center and the Lake City Farmers Market. Telephone town halls and other types of meetings will also be used.
Only in Seattle grant for Lake City Future First	Continue support for Lake City Future First (LCFF), which is a partnership of business owners, community members and service providers. Catalytic projects underway include: the World of Tastes Passport Program; business district beautification; and activation of parks and open spaces.
LCFF business district support	The Department of Neighborhoods Planning Outreach and Engagement Liaison (POEL) program will provide support for 8-10 immigrant business owners in Lake City. Over the next couple months, businesses will be selected to participate. Then POELs will spend about four weeks identifying what support owners need and connecting them to existing programs and services. LCFF will follow up with the businesses this summer to measure the program's success.
Design and Planning Committee	Support the formation of a community group to work with developers prior to submitting projects for Design Review. Use principles of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative to encourage broad engagement.
Green Seattle Partnership	Continue coordination and support volunteer projects to clean up and restore natural areas. Current partners include Forterra and the Thornton Creek Alliance.



Build a Healthy Community

PROJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION
33rd Ave NE park	In 2008, the City used \$930,000 from the Parks Levy Fund to purchase property on 33rd Ave NE. This year, with \$750,000 in funds from the Seattle Park District, planning to design the park will begin. In addition to the park itself, the City will work with the community to coordinate additional public safety and transportation investments surrounding the park.
Virgil Flaim skatepark	The Lake City Skatespot project will add a small skateboard park, relocate the basketball court, and add other amenities and improvements at Virgil Flaim Park. The \$750,000 project to be completed by September 2016.
Thornton Creek restoration	In partnerships with King County, Seattle Public Utilities monitors creek water quality and identifies potential improvement programs. This spring, UW students from the College of the Built Environments will present suggestions for improvements to the drainage pond at NE 125th Street and 35th Ave NE.
Little Brook Park public restroom	Beginning in 2017, Seattle Parks and Recreation will keep the restroom open year-round (it's currently closed Sept-June). Providing access to the restroom will also help control fecal bacteria contamination in Thornton Creek.
Connections to Meadowbrook Community Center	Seattle Parks and Recreation will work with community members to provide shuttle service for youth who cannot currently participate in activities at the Meadowbrook Community Center or teen center. Shuttle service could also serve other Lake City residents, such as seniors.
New recreation programming	Last year, the Human Services Department began funding additional senior services in Northeast Seattle, including Lake City. Using new funds from the Seattle Park District, the City will work with local service providers and the North Seattle Chamber of Commerce, which currently operates the Lake City Community Center, to provide new classes, services, and/or programs at the community center or other locations around the Lake City civic core.
Access to Healthy Food	The Office of Sustainability and the Environment funds the Fresh Bucks program at the Lake City Farmers Market.
Fred Meyer Community Garden	The Lake City community has received grants from the Department of Neighborhoods and is working with Fred Meyer to develop a small community garden on their property. Take the survey to provide input on the garden design: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G665R6T
Natural Drainage Systems	Seattle Public Utilities will work with SDOT and community members to identify locations for new drainage systems (bio-swales) that will help improve water quality in Thornton Creek. The first new facilities on 30th Ave NE are scheduled to start construction next year. Additional locations will be identified in coordination with SDOT's sidewalk installation program.
NE 130th Street beach access	The City is working to restore public access to Lake Washington at NE 130th Street. Negotiations are underway for the City to purchase street-end property.

Enhance Community Safety

PROJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION
Intersection improvements around the Lake City Civic Core	This spring, SDOT will identify traffic and pedestrian safety improvements at key intersections on 28th Ave NE near the library and community center and along 33rd Ave NE; change signal timing at Lake City Way and NE 125th Street. Construction will begin later this year.
Sidewalk installation	SDOT is committed to building 20 new block faces of sidewalks over the next four years. A few locations have already been identified for construction in 2016. SDOT will work with the community and use information from the Safe Routes to School program, the Pedestrian Master Plan, and SPU's Natural Drainage Systems (NDS) program to identify and prioritize locations for additional blocks. To maximize the number of sidewalks constructed, the City will leverage both SDOT and SPU funds.
LCW Traffic Safety Corridor project	Since 2013, SDOT has worked with the Lake City community to improve safety and identify capital improvements along Lake City Way. Improvements have been made throughout the corridor, including new sidewalks, improved crosswalks, traffic calming, ADA curb ramps, and transit stop enhancements. Through this project we have recently transformed two intersections on the corridor – Lake City Way and 24th Avenue NE and Lake City Way at NE 110th Street. Additional improvements are being designed for the intersections of NE 91st Street, NE 95th Street, NE 125th Street and NE 137th Street that will include new sidewalks, better pedestrian crossings and new pavement (implementation is grant-dependent). In partnership with WSDOT, Washington State Patrol, and Seattle Police, the City will continue heightened enforcement along Lake City Way. Altogether, more than \$2,000,000 has been invested in capital improvements, enforcement, and education efforts along Lake City Way.
Public safety	A recently hired Crime Prevention Coordinator is working with communities in the North Precinct, including Lake City. The coordinator will work with community members and other City staff to promote public safety. SDCI is working with the Seattle Police and Fire departments to develop strategies for responding to problem vacant buildings.

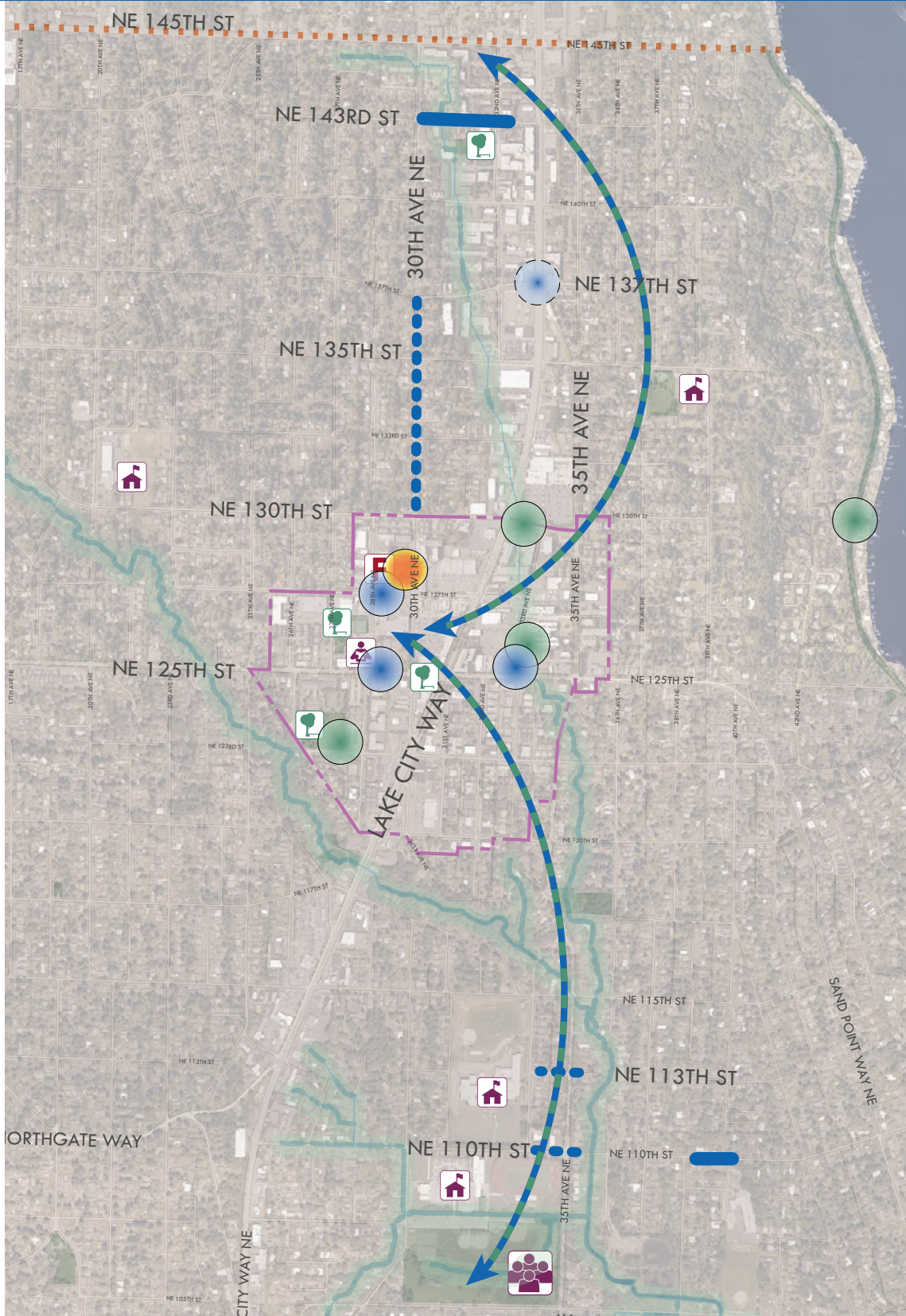


Planning for the Future

PROJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION
Workforce Housing for Families	The Office of Housing selected the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) to develop housing for families with children in Lake City. After studying sites around the neighborhood, the site of the old Fire Station 39 was selected as a preferred alternative. New construction at the site would provide approximately 75 homes. The project is expected to open in the fall of 2018.
Lake City preschool	The Department of Early Education and Learning is working with the Office of Housing and LIHI to create a new Seattle preschool on the ground floor of the former Fire Station 39 site. Approximately four new classrooms would open in the fall of 2018.
Human services	The City will continue to fund programs that help strengthen the Lake City community. Service providers receiving funding from the Human Services Department include: the North Seattle Family Center, the Hunger Intervention Program, the North Seattle Helpline, and Sound Generations.
New development standards	Building off of the Lake City Urban Design Framework, OPCD will propose modifications to commercial zoning along Lake City Way to require more pedestrian-oriented commercial development in and around downtown Lake City. New development standards would encourage more light and air with maximum widths for buildings and upper level setbacks.
28th Avenue NE festival street plan	City staff are working with community members to develop a festival street plan for 28th Avenue NE, which could help create a more permanent home for the Lake City Farmers Market. Community members would help shape the design this spring and early summer. The plan would be approved through a joint directors rule and implemented as new development occurs or through grants.



A Shared Vision for Lake City



new projects

-  affordable housing & Seattle preschool
-  funded pedestrian safety improvements
-  planned pedestrian improvements

sidewalks

-  2016
-  2017/2018

-  new shuttle connections between Lake City Little Brook & Meadowbrook

-  parks & open space

existing conditions

-  community center
-  library
-  schools
-  parks
-  fire station
-  urban village boundary
-  North Neighborhoods Planning Area
-  Thornton Creek

For more information about the Lake City – a Shared Vision, please contact Katie Sheehy, Senior Planner with Seattle’s Office of Planning and Community Development. katie.sheehy@seattle.gov (206) 684-5345 www.seattle.gov/dpd/cityplanning/completeprojectslist/lakecity/background